

Morgantown Police Department

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NEWS RELEASEFor Immediate Release

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"Pokemon Go Safety Tips"

Pokemon Go fever has arrived in Morgantown. The Police department would like to provide some safety tips so as you seek out, capture, train and battle your creatures, please remember that the real world is still around you. Law Enforcement Agencies throughout the country have reported accidents, injuries, and string of robberies where suspects have set up fake 'Poke-spots'.

- Be aware of your surroundings and pay attention to where you are going/who as well as who is around you. Slow moving vehicles paralleling a person on foot, might be a sign it's a get-away car. If you get the sense you are being followed or set-up for a robbery, head to a lighted area with people around.
- Watch where you are going, please don't look down at your phone while crossing streets, getting off buses, or even while walking. Obey all traffic laws!
- Be mindful not run into trees, parking meters, and things that are attached to sidewalks.
- Do not drive, ride your bike or skateboard while interacting with the app.
- Know where your kids are going when playing with the app, set limits on where they can go, so they don't keep going trying to get the next "Pokemon".
- Tell your kids about stranger-danger because the app may bring strangers together in real life at 'pokestops'.
- Do not go onto private property, dark alleys, or areas that you usually would not go if you weren't playing the game.
- Do not try sneaking around Police Stations, Fire Stations or Public Safety Vehicles. Your attempts to capture a "Pokemon" could be considered suspicious activity. If you are going to the Public Safety Building "Pokespot" please remain on the front steps in the lighted area at night.

The Morgantown Police Department is committed to its goal of eliminating crime in our city. Citizens are encouraged to become a "Partner in Policing", by reporting suspected criminal activity to Morgantown Police Department Switchboard at (304) 284-7522. If you need immediate Police attention or a crime is in progress call 911.

Authority Ed Preston Chief of Police